THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE N.V. RAMANA

W.P. No. 12711 of 2006

Oral order:

Assailing the endorsement dated 07.02.2006, made by the 1st respondent-Project Director in Endt. No.606-1/2004/E2, informing the petitioner that she has not been selected as Anganwadi Helper in the interview conducted on 24.01.2006 by the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Selection Committee headed by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Visakhapatnam, she filed the present writ petition.

The petitioner claims that she was appointed as Anganwadi Helper in Ventipalem village on 16.02.2004 on monthly payment of Rs.500/-, and is continuing as such, till date. The petitioner states that as per the norms, those who are working as Anganwadi Helpers, are entitled to be selected and continued in regular post. The petitioner states that though she has the requisite qualifications to hold a regular post, the respondents have not considered her candidature for selection. Therefore, she made a representation dated 06.02.2006 to the District Collector stating that her candidature has not been selected. However, on the very next day, the 1st respondent-Project Director, had issued the impugned endorsement informing her that she has not been selected in the interview conducted by the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers Selection Committee on 24.01.2006. Hence, she filed the present writ petition.

The learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is working as Anganwadi Helper, and there is no need to conduct fresh selection, and the action of the respondents in rejecting her candidature for selection and not regularizing her services in the said post, is illegal and arbitrary.

Respondents filed counter. The learned Standing Counsel for respondent Nos. 1 and 2 submitted that the petitioner was appointed as ECE Helper in ECE Center for Ventipalem village. The said center falls under the administration of the District Primary Education Programme and not under the administration of the Women Development & Child Welfare Department. Pursuant to sanctioning of Anganwadi Center at Ventipalem, the District Collector, who is the

Chairman, has nominated the Revenue Divisional Officer concerned to conduct interviews. The Revenue Divisional Officer, conducted the interview on 24.01.2006, for which the petitioner and three others attended. Though all the four were qualified, but having regard to the performance of the candidates at the interview, the Selection Committee, selected one

Smt. Padala Uma Maheswari. If the petitioner was already working as Anganwadi Helper, there is no need for her to attend the interview. Since the petitioner was not appointed as Anganwadi Worker by the Women and Child Welfare Department, she attended the interview, and as she did not perform well in the interview, she was not selected. Hence, she cannot contend that she was not selected.

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Standing Counsel for respondents.

Though the petitioner claimed that she was appointed as Anganwadi Helper, she has not produced any material to substantiate such a claim. On the other hand, it is the specific case of the respondents that she was appointed as ECE Helper in the ECE center, which falls under the administration of the District Primary Education Programme. Since the petitioner was appointed as Anganwadi Helper in ECE Center, she cannot claim absorption of her services in the Anganwadi Center falling under the administration of the District Women and Child Welfare Agency. The petitioner, who attended the interview along with three others, it is stated by the respondents, and as is evident from the counter filed by them, has not fared well in the interview. Since the petitioner did not fare well in the interview, no exception can be taken to the impugned endorsement issued by the 1st respondent-Project Officer, informing the non-selection of the petitioner as Anganwadi Helper by the Selection Committee.

For the foregoing reasons, there is no merit in the writ petition, and the same is accordingly dismissed. No costs.

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N.V. RAMANA, J.

Date: 2nd February, 2007.
KSR